

Canada Wage Distribution: Insights from Census 2021 PUMF

1. Purpose of This Note

This short document accompanies a video analysis exploring the distribution of annual wages in Canada using the 2021 Census Public Use Microdata File (PUMF).

The purpose is to provide brief context and interpretation of the visual results shown in the video.

2. Data Source

The analysis is based on the **2021 Census Public Use Microdata File (PUMF)** released by Statistics Canada.

PUMF data provide anonymized individual-level information that enables researchers to examine labour market characteristics while maintaining confidentiality.

3. Scope of Analysis

No demographic or regional breakdowns are presented at this stage.

The focus is on:

- Annual wage distribution
- Overall shape of the wage distribution
- Concentration of workers across income ranges

The analysis is descriptive and does not attempt to estimate causal relationships.

4. Key Observations

The wage distribution shows a strong right-skewed pattern, with a large concentration of workers earning lower to middle income levels and a long upper tail representing higher earners.

This highlights substantial dispersion in wages across the Canadian labour market.

5. Interpretation Notes

The observed distribution reflects structural differences across industries, occupations, and employment arrangements.

Because the data are from a public-use microdata file, the results should be interpreted as illustrative rather than fully representative population estimates.

6. Conclusion

Descriptive analysis of wage distributions provides an important foundation for understanding labour market inequality and workforce structure.

Future analysis may extend this work by examining wages across demographic groups, industries, or regions.

About NeosEcon

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